

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 39 (Presently Amended) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and an antibacterial agent that specifically binds to an S-yneS polypeptide, wherein the antibacterial agent is identified as a candidate antibacterial agent by a method comprising:

- (a) contacting an S-yneS polypeptide with a test compound; and
- (b) detecting binding ~~an interaction~~ of the test compound with the S-yneS polypeptide, wherein binding ~~an interaction~~ indicates that the test compound is a candidate antibacterial agent.

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Claim 40 (Presently Amended) A composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient and an antibacterial agent that specifically binds to an S-yneS polypeptide, wherein the antibacterial agent is identified by a method comprising:

- (a) contacting an S-yneS polypeptide with a test compound;
- (b) detecting binding ~~an interaction~~ of the test compound with the S-yneS polypeptide, wherein binding ~~an interaction~~ indicates that the test compound is a candidate to be an antibacterial agent; and
- (c) determining whether the candidate antibacterial agent inhibits growth of bacteria, relative to growth of bacteria cultured in the absence of the candidate antibacterial agent that ~~interacts~~ binds with the polypeptide, wherein inhibition of growth indicates that the candidate antibacterial agent is an antibacterial agent.